



For Immediate Release

October 14, 2011

DEW increases efficiency, helping businesses reduce costs

Columbia, SC... Palmetto state businesses can now better manage their unemployment insurance costs thanks to a new online web portal the SC Department of Employment and Workforce (DEW) recently launched.

The new web portal allows employers to go online to protest charges of their quarterly benefit charge statement. When employers receive their charge statements in the mail, they will be able to submit electronic protests of charges using the portal. All benefit charge protests must be received within 30 days of the mailing of the charge statements.

The portal can be accessed at <http://www.dew.sc.gov/emp-content-online.asp> under “Employer Benefit Charge Protests” and is designed to allow for quicker response times to protests. Employers should use their already assigned unemployment insurance account numbers to log in to the system. The secure, online portal asks the reason for protest, claimant information and employer contact information.

In January 2011, legislation allowed the DEW to implement a new benefit ratio system to calculate an employer’s tax class and tax rate.

“We are working to streamline services, eliminate duplication and increase efficiency; therefore, we are encouraging employers to review their quarterly charge statements to ensure no errors have been made,” said Dr. Erica Von Nessen, assistant executive director for Unemployment Insurance. “If there are errors, however, we are confident this new web portal will allow for faster and easier processing thereby assisting businesses with helping to keep unemployment insurance costs down.”

###